GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5370
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2001
SAFETY MEASURES AT RAILWAY STATIONS
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide adequate security measures at each Railway Station in the country in view of the recent militant attack at Jammu Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a) to (c): `Police` and `Public Order` are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, and, as such, the detection and prevention of crimes on Railway Stations and appropriate security measures there is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Government Railway Police (GRP), functions under the control of the respective State Governments. The Centra Government has advised the State Government regarding the threats posed by terrorist outfits operating in Jammu and Kashmir and the North-East, who have identified Railways as an important target. The measures suggested by the Central Government include, inter alia, patrolling of tracks, the need for regular meetings between the GRP and the Railway Protection Force (RPF), posting of mobile police force in the running trains, improvement in coordination between the police escort and the railway staff, removal of unauthorised hawkers, urchins and other undesirable elements, and prompt registration of cases at the first place of the reporting. The Railway administration has also taken steps to assist the GRP. These include sharing of intelligence between the RPF and the GRP, introduction of instant action groups in superfast trains to prevent entry of unauthorised persons, assistance by the RPF in escorting passenger trains during the night, joint strategy involving the RPF and the GRP to deal with anti-social elements etc.